

who think of us, who are being blotted out of existence by the war.

For three years I have been at the front. I have left in Belgium my entire family and have never received any news of those I love. It is enough to say to you how terrible our situation is. Also, I have been very touched in knowing the sentiments which exist in the United States for my unhappy country and its brave soldiers.

We have every hope and confidence in the final victory of the allies, who will return to our relatives and families everything, since the great American Republic has joined the allies in the struggle of right and justice against barbarism.

I finish, Miss, in assuring you of my sincere remembrance.

EDMOND LUCAS,  
Sergeant, Sixth Infantry, D. 123, Field Army,  
Belgium.

### PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES.

To the Editor:—Public health nurses have greatly increased during the past few years. Hundreds, perhaps thousands, of small towns and rural communities, as well as large cities, have come to regard them as indispensable community servants. Their service represents at least a minimum of skilled nursing which can usually be supplemented with safety by family, neighbors or trained attendants. Their value as health agents is now pretty generally recognized by health officers, school boards and manufacturers, as well as by the public itself.

Because their work is largely preventive, one of their chief values is that they persuade many people to call upon their doctor before an illness has become serious enough to have convinced them that it was necessary to consult him. Nevertheless, their opportunities as health teachers most often depend upon and follow their entry to the homes in time of need due to illness. They are very dependent upon the local physicians because it is an invariable rule that no visiting or public health nurse shall perform any treatment nor administer any medicine, nor even make repeated calls upon a patient except with the consent and direction of the family physician.

Oftentimes these facts are not understood by country doctors, and consequently they refuse to call for the nurses' assistance, and even discourage their patients and their families from doing so. This situation is becoming less and less frequent, but still exists in some localities and among some doctors.

More than ever, these nurses will be needed now that so many physicians are being called to military duty, and yet they cannot serve the people unless the doctors who remain at home will recognize and call upon them.

The members of the National Organization for Public Health Nursing, among whom are many Red Cross town and country nurses, have instructed me to bring this matter to the attention of the state medical associations in the hope that they will see fit to urge their county societies to interpret the work of public health nurses to their members, to clear away the misunderstandings which are now in some places preventing the best and fullest use of public health nurses and to encourage employment of their services.

Representative women in this field will welcome opportunities to discuss the subject before State or local associations.

Sincerely yours,  
ELLA PHILLIPS CRANDALL,  
Executive Secretary.

New York City, October 19, 1917.

### RESIGNATION FROM MEDICAL FACULTY.

November 6, 1917.

Dr. William F. Southard,  
President Board of Trustees,  
College of Physicians and Surgeons,  
San Francisco, California.

Dear Doctor:

I hereby tender my resignation as Professor of Nervous and Mental Diseases in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, San Francisco.

I am prompted in this action by the condition of the college. The standing which this college now holds is regrettable to the extreme. I feel that in order to secure recognition as a reputable college that it will be necessary for the college to conform with the demands of the council of medical education of the A. M. A.

I furthermore feel that inefficiency permeates the whole teaching and executive staff, and in order to secure proper organization I think it advisable that the members of the faculty resign, thereby relieving your board of any embarrassment which might otherwise be present in such reorganization.

Should you completely reorganize in conformity with the request stated and which reorganization would meet the approval of the Government and the council of education of the A. M. A., then you are at liberty to invite me to again occupy the chair of Nervous and Mental Diseases should you so wish.

I trust that you will not misconstrue my motive in thus resigning, for I have the welfare of the students at heart, which students I feel should receive as thorough a medical education as is possible to give them.

With my best personal wishes to you, and wishing you every success in a reorganization of the college, which I trust will take place, I am,

Very truly yours,

OTTO G. FREYERMUTH.

(After this letter was submitted for publication, Dr. Southard was asked for any comments he wished to offer. His letter follows:)

To the Editor:

In reply to your favor of the 9th inst., I will simply say that Dr. Freyermuth's resignation was requested for the good of the medical school. I have no comments to make at this time, as the plan of reorganization is now in the hands of the board of trustees and faculty of the College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Very truly yours,

W. F. SOUTHARD.

San Francisco, Nov. 12, 1917.

(A copy of Dr. Southard's letter was submitted to Dr. Freyermuth, whose reply follows:)

To the Editor:

Yours of the 13th inst. with a copy of the letter of Dr. W. F. Southard just at hand. In reply will state that neither directly nor indirectly, at any time or place, has my resignation from the faculty of the Physicians and Surgeons College been officially demanded, requested or even suggested.

On the contrary, on November 5th I personally informed Dr. Southard that I could no longer remain with the College. Yet, he requested me not to resign until the A. M. A. had given the College

their rating; also, on November 10th I received the following letter:

"San Francisco, Nov. 10, 1917.  
"Otto Freyermuth, M. D.,  
"Phelan Bldg.

"My dear Doctor:

"Your letter came duly to hand and I have placed it before the Board of Trustees, who will act upon it in a few days.

"Very truly yours,  
"W. F. SOUTHARD."

I have great respect for Dr. Southard and don't convince myself that he was instrumental in dictating the letter to you.

I was prompted to resign from the faculty not because of any animus or personalities, but rather as a protest against the appalling inefficiency of the entire institution. I have the interest of the students at heart and certainly hope that some means may be employed whereby the students and the graduates who have been drafted into the army, out of the College, may be permitted to continue their studies.

I am sorry that any personalities have entered into the controversy. I am,

Yours very truly,  
OTTO G. FREYERMUTH.

San Francisco, Nov. 15, 1917.

#### MEDICAL CERTIFICATE TO ESCAPE DRAFT.

To the Editor:—I am inclosing you a copy of a certificate which to-day was handed to one of the doctors serving on Exemption Board No. 1, in San Francisco. In view of the fact that this man was passed as being physically qualified for military service, is it possible that we have made a mistake, when so eminent authority as Dr. Ericius Remedy Co. have given this man a certificate "at possibly so much per," stating he is suffering from such a serious complaint?

Yours truly,  
W. A. CLARK, M. D.

Oakland, Cal., September 19, 1917.

"DR. ERICIUS REMEDY CO.

"New York, June 13, 1917.

"To Whom It May Concern: That Mr. O. E. Olson of 407 Tehama street, San Francisco, Cal., who has been in our care since February 8th this year, suffers from PHLEGMONOUS ENTERITIS, and upon this ground is unable to do military service of any kind, which probably will make his condition worse. is hereby affirmed.

"DR. ERICIUS REMEDY CO.

("Signed) Per E. A. Son.

"Physician in charge Dr. Max Lawrence Polowe,  
"319 Sixth street, New York City."

(Note—A copy of this certificate was sent to the secretary of the New York State Board of Medical Examiners, with a request for information about the Dr. Ericius Remedy Company. An excerpt from the secretary's reply follows.)

"To the Editor:—This case again emphasizes the need for adequate legislation governing the practice of unethical physicians. Dr. Max L. Polowe, who signs himself as physician in charge of the Dr. Ericius Remedy Company, was graduated from the University and Bellevue Hospital Medical College, an excellent institution, in 1903, and passed the medical licensing examination of this State in 1904. He is, therefore, legally entitled to practice until such time as he shall have been convicted of violations of the law of the State. It is only upon such grounds as this that the license of a physician is revoked. As you will see, this leaves the broad question of advertising and ethical behavior on the part of physi-

cians in the control of the various local and county medical societies. It has been the opinion of the officers of the State Medical Society and of the body of men in the State service who administer the laws controlling professional education and practice that the control of the ethical behavior of physicians should be in the hands of the medical profession. It is evident, however, from years of practical trial that such control is imperfect and inadequate, and I believe in the near future legislative action will be taken to reach such physicians as are willing to cast ethical procedure aside and prostitute their profession for financial gain.

"W. J. DENNO, M. D.

"Albany, N. Y., October 15, 1917."

#### OUR INDICTMENT OF GERMANY.

By THOMAS W. GREGORY,  
Attorney-General of the United States.

The German Government began this war by a contemptuous breach of its formally plighted faith made in solemn treaty, and from the beginning until now has more than made good this ominous earnest of its intention and temper. The President has shown us how one by one, as opportunity offered, the safeguards which civilization has been able during the centuries to throw around neutrals and the non-fighting people of warring nations, were ruthlessly torn down; how patient and long-suffering remonstrance and request were met by fair words, and fairer promises made only to be broken.

We all know as but sober fact, plainly stated, that the Imperial Government has allowed no rule of war, no principle of civilization, no consideration of humanity, no teaching of Christianity to stand between it and the working out of its illegal purposes. For half a century that Government has schemed and prepared to dominate the world by "blood and iron." For half a century the officials of the Imperial Government, from the Kaiser down, including even the teachers of their children, have prostituted the minds of their youth until the whole people has been led to a toleration, if not approval, of the hideous outrages and barbarities practiced by that Government in this war. While yet we were neutral, struggling to keep free from the conflict, the representatives of that Government in this country planned to destroy our factories and our railroads, forged our public papers, deceived us when convenient, violated our hospitality and our sovereignty, while they plotted against our territorial integrity; they deliberately and with malice and affronting forewarning drowned our helpless women and babes, and declared a public holiday that their own innocent children might celebrate the murder.

They have bombarded unfortified towns and bombed the unprotected homes of their foes, taking their toll of wounded and dead from the aged and infirm, the young and the helpless. They have made barren desert of the garden spots of the earth; they have needlessly pillaged and wilfully burned towns; they have reduced to slavery men, women and children; they have wrecked and torn asunder families with a system diabolical in its efficiency; they have wantonly defiled and destroyed the temples of God. They have done all of these things that they might strike terror into the hearts of men so as more easily to conquer and rule them.

As the war has gone on, the ultimate aim of the Imperial Government has become more and more clear. Drunk with the sense of its own power and its asserted superiority, it has proposed to secure a dominating position for itself and for its system over the entire world. Nowhere yielding to the people their rightful powers, and